

Mission and Fundamental Goals of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Mission of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Mission of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to ensure that every citizen can live a healthy life without anxiety while supporting one another and to make the most of their individual strengths at home, work or in the local community, etc. Through social security and labour policy, to contribute to the far-reaching improvement of the quality of people's lives and social and economic development.

Fundamental Goals

I	Ensuring medical care which people can trust and feel secure with and to promote their health.
II	Creating a hygienic, anxiety-free and comfortable living environment.
III	Improvement of worker safety and environment.
IV	Ensure job security in the labour market in which diverse ways of working is required due to changes in the economy and society
V	Improving the environment where workers can fully express their abilities as well as promoting the development and improvement of workers occupational skills.
VI	Promoting a society which enables, for example, both men and women to fully express their abilities in addition to bearing and raising children without fear of the future
VII	Providing high-quality welfare services from the viewpoint of the recipients.
VIII	Promoting a society in which non-disabled or disabled people live together and be active in their communities
IX	Promoting a society in which elderly can live as independently as possible while having a purpose in life with a sense of security.
X	Implementing Health, Welfare and Labour administrations appropriate for the Age of Internationalization
X I	Promoting the advancement of science and technology related to the improvement of people's lives
X II	Promoting IT solutions to increase the level of convenience in people's lives

Fundamental Goal I Ensuring medical care which people can trust and feel secure with in addition to promoting general health.

Policy Goal 1 Improving the system which can provide medical care needed in the community

- 1-1 Improving the system which can effectively provide good quality and appropriate medical care within the daily living area

Policy Goal 2 Securing necessary healthcare workforce and their quality improvement

- 2-1 Securing a healthcare workforce appropriate for the future medical demand
- 2-2 Improving the quality of healthcare workers

Policy Goal 3 Promotion of providing effective, safe and high quality medical services from the user's perspective.

- 3-1 Promoting the development of medical information infrastructure
- 3-2 Promoting comprehensive medical security measures

Policy Goal 4 Promoting medical care which the government should assume as its medical measures (medical policies)

- 4-1 Improvement of medical policies and ensuring they are shared on an equal basis

Policy Goal 5 Preventing health-threatening diseases such as infectious diseases while securing medical care and similar services needed for infected patients

- 5-1 Prevention of outbreak and spread of infectious diseases
- 5-2 Improving the prevention and treatment of particular diseases for which treatments are not yet established
- 5-3 Promoting appropriate medical transplantation
- 5-4 Assisting Atomic Bomb Survivors

Policy Goal 6 Ensuring that people can appropriately use high quality, effective and safe medical products and devices

- 6-1 Ensuring the timely provision of effective and safe medical products and devices which have been newly approved.
- 6-2 Ensuring quality thoroughly and promoting safety measures on medical products
- 6-3 Promoting the appropriate use of medical products

Policy Goal 7 Ensuring stable supply of safe and secure blood products

- 7-1 Securing healthy blood donors, promoting domestic supply, ensuring appropriate use, and the safety of blood products

Policy Goal 8 Ensuring stable supply of vaccine critical for the public health and proceeding with the preparations of supply system in the event of an emergency

- 8-1 Ensuring domestic stockpiles of vaccine and antitoxin for rare diseases along with a stable supply of vaccines for various needs

Policy Goal 9 Promoting the development of new medical products and devices and advancement of the pharmaceutical industry

- 9-1 Promoting the development of new medical products and devices and advancement of the pharmaceutical industry

Policy Goal 10 Establishing a stable and effective healthcare insurance system which can ensure medical care necessary for all citizens

- 10-1 Establishing an appropriate, stable and effective healthcare insurance system
- 10-2 Ensuring appropriate mid-to-long-term medical costs by countermeasures for lifestyle-related diseases or rectifying long-term hospitalization

Policy Goal 11 Promoting national public health in various places such as local communities and work sites for a wide range of age groups from pregnant women and children to the elderly

- 11-1 Preserving the health of local residents and maintaining a healthcare system which enables them to lead secure lives
- 11-2 Promoting the extension of a healthy life expectancy through the improvement of lifestyles and promoting the reduction of deaths due to cancer
- 11-3 Promoting and creating safe and secure workplaces (Refer to Fundamental Goal III Policy Goal 2)
- 11-4 Improving maternal and child health measures (Refer to Fundamental Goal VI Policy Goal 5)
- 11-5 Promoting health and minimizing the healthcare needs of the elderly and promoting their social participation as well as helping them find their role in society (Refer to Fundamental Goal IX Policy Goal 3-1)

Policy Goal 12 Promoting health risk management

- 12-1 Improving the system to respond promptly and appropriately in the event of an outbreak of a health risk

Fundamental Goal II Creating a hygienic, anxiety-free and comfortable living environment

Policy Goal 1 Ensuring the safety of food products

1-1 Preventing negative health effects resulting from consumption of food

Policy Goal 2 Securing a safe, high quality and disaster-resistant water system

2-1 Securing a safe, high quality and disaster-resistant water system

Policy Goal 3 Prevention of drug and stimulant abuse

3-1 Implementing prevention of abuse and illegal distribution of regulated drugs

Policy Goal 4 Preventing health hazards to people from chemical substances surrounding the lives of people

4-1 Ensuring the safety and implementing fair evaluation and control of chemical substances

Policy Goal 5 Promoting and improving environmental health

5-1 Promoting and improving environmental health by securing and increasing sanitation standards in the environmental health industry

Fundamental Goal III Improvement of worker safety and environment

Policy Goal 1 Ensuring and improving working conditions

1-1 Ensuring and improving working conditions

Policy Goal 2 Promoting and creating safe and secure workplaces

2-1 Promoting and creating safe and secure workplaces where the safety and health of workers are ensured

Policy Goal 3 Promoting fair protection of industrial-accident victims and their social rehabilitation

3-1 Providing prompt and fair workers' compensation benefits and protecting industrial accident victims

3-2 Promoting and supporting social rehabilitation of industrial-accident victims

Policy Goal 4 Improving workers' living

4-1 Promoting measures for maintaining the balance between work and life through promoting improvement of implementation of work hours

4-2 Realizing prosperous and stable workers' living

Policy Goal 5 Securing balanced compensation for part-time workers and improving appropriate working conditions for at-home or domestic workers (Refer to Fundamental Goal VI Policy Goal 1-1)

Policy Goal 6 Promotion of building stable employee-employer relations

6-1 Implementing Prompt and appropriate settlement of collective employee-employer relations disputes as well as establishing and popularizing rules of collective employee-employer relations for them to continue to be stable into the future

Policy Goal 7 Promoting settlement of individual labour disputes

7-1 Promoting settlement of individual labour disputes

Policy Goal 8 Implementing fair and smooth collection of labour insurance coverage

8-1 Promoting labour insurance coverage and implementing fair collection of labour insurance fees

Fundamental Goal IV Ensuring job security in the labour market in which diverse ways of working is required due to changes in the economy and society

Policy Goal 1 Reinforcing supply-demand adjustment to resolve imbalance in the supply and demand of labour

1-1 Reinforcing supply-demand adjustment of public employment service agencies

Policy Goal 2 Stabilizing employment and expanding job opportunities

2-1 Stabilizing employment and creating more job opportunities according to the characteristics of local communities, small and medium-sized businesses and industries

Policy Goal 3 Promoting and stabilizing employment according to the characteristics of workers

3-1 Promoting and stabilizing employment of the elderly, disabled, and youth

Policy Goal 4 Ensuring life security during periods of seeking employment

4-1 Implementing stable and fair operation of employment insurance system and ensuring life security to make looking for work easier

Fundamental Goal V Improving the environment where workers can fully express their abilities as well as promoting the development and improvement of worker occupational skills.

Policy Goal 1 Securing opportunities for development of various occupational skills

1-1 Securing opportunities for development of various occupational skills

Policy Goal 2 Supporting continuous career building throughout workers' careers

2-1 Supporting youth with occupational career (training?)

2-2 Supporting career building for independence from welfare

Policy Goal 3 Reinforcing "Empowerment Faculty and Sensibility in Practice" and promoting inheritance of skills

3-1 Implementing measures for the promotion of skill inheritance

Fundamental Goal VI Promoting a society which enables, for example, both men and women to fully express their abilities in addition to bearing and raising children without fear of the future

Policy Goal 1 Improving employment situations in which both men and women workers can fully express their various individual characters and abilities and achieve a good balance between work and family and improving working conditions meeting their various needs in employment

- 1-1 Improving employment situations in which both men and women workers can fully express their various individual characters and abilities and achieve a good balance between work and family and improving working conditions meeting their various needs in employment

Policy Goal 2 Providing child-support programs such as various child-care services corresponding to the users' needs and realizing a society which supports healthy development of children

- 2-1 Implementing measures such as child-support programs in local communities
- 2-2 Providing necessary services for healthy development and quality improvement of children
- 2-3 Increasing the capacity of child-care centers and ensuring child-care services which can meet the various needs of users

Policy Goal 3 Ensuring life security of child-rearing families

- 3-1 Ensuring life security of child-rearing families

Policy Goal 4 Improving comprehensive support systems of child or spousal abuse prevention programs for protection and independence support of the victims

- 4-1 Improving support systems against child or spousal abuse

Policy Goal 5 Improving maternal and child health measures

- 5-1 Improving maternal and child health measures

Policy Goal 6 Realizing comprehensive independent living of single-mother households

- 6-1 Supporting single mothers comprehensively for their independence

Fundamental Goal Ⅷ Providing high-quality welfare services from the viewpoint of the recipients.

Policy Goal 1 Providing appropriate welfare services to the poor

1-1 Providing appropriate welfare services to the poor

Policy Goal 2 Reinforcing the safety net in the local communities and improving the welfare of people who need support in the local communities

2-1 Reinforcing the safety net in the local communities and improving the welfare of people who need support in the local communities

Policy Goal 3 Providing appropriate welfare services to disaster victims

3-1 Providing emergency support in the event of a disaster

Policy Goal 4 Providing staff training to support welfare services and improving the foundation of the recipients' protection

4-1 Providing higher quality welfare services through staff training in social welfare related areas.

Policy Goal 5 Supporting wounded and sick soldiers who have retired, the survivors of the war dead and people remaining in or returning from China and settling the remaining businesses of Imperial Japanese Army and Navy

5-1 Providing support pension and medical expenses to the wounded and sick retired soldiers and the survivors of the war dead

5-2 Comforting the survivors of the war dead by recovery of the remains of their relations.

5-3 Ensuring the smooth return of the Japanese people remaining in China as well as supporting the independence of those permanently returned from China

5-4 Appropriately organizing and storing the personnel information related to the Imperial Japanese Army and Navy and claiming the pension bills appropriately

Fundamental Goal VIII Promoting a society in which non-disabled or disabled people live together and are active in their communities

Policy Goal 1 Supporting the independence of the disabled in the communities through improvements to the system which accurately provides necessary health care and welfare services

- 1-1 Improving the support system in the daily life, work places or communities to support the disabled to be independent in their communities
- 1-2 Promoting employment of the disabled (Refer to Fundamental Goal IV Policy Goal 3-1)

Fundamental Goal Ⅷ Promoting a society in which elderly can live as independently as possible while having a purpose in life with a sense of security

Policy Goal 1 Enhancing the income security which provides a basis for the economic independence of the elderly

- 1-1 Ensuring the sustainability of the public pension schemes
- 1-2 Encouraging broad use of supplementary pension plan (such as corporate pension) for the public pension schemes

Policy Goal 2 Promoting employment of the elderly (Refer to Fundamental Goal Ⅳ Policy Goal 3-1)

Policy Goal 3 Encouraging the elderly to have a purpose in life and stay healthy, as well as supporting those who need nursing care through appropriately operating the long-term care insurance system

- 3-1 Promoting the health of the elderly to minimize their health care needs in addition to encouraging them to find a purpose in life and actively participate in society
- 3-2 Appropriately operating the long-term care insurance system as well as improving both quantitatively and qualitatively the foundation of nursing service

Fundamental Goal X Implementing Health, Welfare and Labor administrations appropriate for the Age of Internationalization

Policy Goal 1 Participating and contributing to the international community

- 1-1 Promoting participation and cooperation to the activities of international organizations
- 1-2 Promoting international cooperation such as bilateral cooperation

Policy Goal 2 Implementing measures which respond to the internationalization (Re-declaration)

- 2-1 Prevention of outbreak and spread of infectious diseases
(Refer to Fundamental Goal I Policy Goal 5-1, Fundamental Goal I Policy Goal 8-1)
- 2-2 Preventing negative health effects resulting from consumption of food
(Refer to Fundamental Goal II Policy Goal 1-1)
- 2-3 Ensuring the sustainability of the public pension schemes
(Refer to Fundamental Goal X Policy Goal 1-1)
- 2-4 Implementing measures concerning foreign workers
(Refer to Fundamental Goal IV Policy Goal 3-1)

Fundamental Goal X I Promoting the advancement of science and technology related to the improvement of people's lives

Policy Goal 1 Improving the systems of national test and research organizations

- 1-1 Securing the appropriate and effective enforcement of national test and research organizations evaluations

Policy Goal 2 Improving the system to support research

- 2-1 Ensuring the appropriate and effective operation of scientific research projects on Health, Welfare and Labor

Policy Goal 3 Promoting the research projects in the field of Health, Welfare and Labor (Previously stated)

- 3-1 Promoting research and development for prevention of outbreak and spread of infectious diseases (Refer to Fundamental Goal I Policy Goal 5-1)
- 3-2 Promoting research and development for the prevention and treatment of particular diseases for which treatments are not yet established (Refer to Fundamental Goal I Policy Goal 5-2)
- 3-3 Through utilizing advanced technology such as biotechnology and nanotechnology, promoting research and development of revolutionary medical products and devices (Refer to Fundamental Goal I Policy Goal 9-1)
- 3-4 Promoting research and development for the extension of a healthy life expectancy through the improvement of lifestyles (Refer to Fundamental Goal I Policy Goal 11-2)
- 3-5 Promoting research and development for the prevention of negative health effects resulting from consumption of food (Refer to Fundamental Goal II Policy Goal 1-1)

※Repeated: Fundamental Goal X I Policy Goals 3 and Policy Goals 1~5 are listed as primary goals for the research and development

Fundamental Goal X II Promoting IT solutions to increase the level of convenience in people's lives

Policy Goal 1 Promoting the e-Government promotion plan

- 1-1 Increasing the level of convenience for people and improving simplification and efficiency of administrative management, through utilization of IT (information and communication technology) in administration areas and reviewing operations and systems for customization.

Policy Goal 2 Promoting Healthcare IT solutions in medical care, health, nursing care, and welfare (Previously stated)

- 2-1 Increasing efforts for popularization of Healthcare IT infrastructure (Refer to Fundamental Goal I Policy Goal 3-1)
- 2-2 Increasing efforts for online billing (Refer to Fundamental Goal I Policy Goal 10-1)
- 2-3 Increasing efforts in Healthcare IT in the fields of nursing care and welfare (Refer to Fundamental Goal IX Policy Goal 3-2)

Policy Goal 3 Promoting IT solutions in other policy fields (Previously stated)

- 3-1 Increasing IT solutions to maintain the balance between work and life (Refer to Fundamental Goal III Policy Goal 4-1)
- 3-2 Increasing IT solutions for easy accessibility to information about job offers and applications (Refer to Fundamental Goal IV Policy Goal 1-1)
- 3-3 Increasing IT solutions for support of reemployment of women (Refer to Fundamental Goal VI Policy Goal 1-1)

2 Major Laws Enacted in FY 2008

Title: Act to Partially Amend the Act on Temporary Measures concerning Ex-Workers of Armed Forces Stationed in Japan and the Act on Temporary Measures concerning Retired Fishers Incidental to Conclusion of International Agreement	
Promulgation Date: April 18, 2008	Enforcement Date: April 18, 2008
Law number: 17	Division: Employment Development Division, Employment Security Bureau
Contents: 1 Partial Amendment to the Act on Temporary Measures concerning Ex-Workers of Armed Forces Stationed in Japan Act on Temporary Measures concerning Ex-Workers of Armed Forces Stationed in Japan was specified to cease to be effective on May 16, 2008, however, this date has changed to May 16, 2013. The expiry date of this law is extended for 5 years. 2 Partial Amendment to the Act on Temporary Measures for Retired Fishers Incidental to Conclusion of the International Agreement Act on Temporary Measures concerning Retired Fishers Incidental to Conclusion of International Agreement was specified to cease to be effective on June 30, 2008, but it is revised to cease to be effective at the end of June 30, 2013, and the expiry date of this law is extended for 5 years.	

Title: Act to Partially Amend the Act on Special Benefits for Parents and Other Relatives of the War Dead	
Promulgation Date: April 18, 2008	Enforcement Date: April 18, 2008
Law number: 20	Division: Relief Division, Social Welfare and War Victims' Relief Bureau
Contents: Japanese government bonds redeemable in 5 years without interest at face value of 1,000,000 yen shall be paid as another special benefit to the parents and other relatives of the war dead who have completed final redemption of Japanese government bonds.	

Title: Act to Partially Amend the Act Concerning the Prevention of Infectious Diseases and Medical Care for Patients Suffering Infectious Diseases and the Quarantine Act	
Promulgation Date: May 2, 2008	Enforcement Date: May 12, 2008
Law number: 30	Division: Tuberculosis and Infectious Disease Control Division, Health Service Bureau
<p>Contents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Act Concerning the Prevention of Infectious Diseases and Medical Care for Patients Suffering Infectious Diseases (Act No. 114 of 1998, hereinafter referred to as "Infectious Disease Law") categorizes avian influenza (H5N1) as Type 2 infectious disease, and provides the legal basis for hospitalization measures to fight said infectious disease. 2) Both the Infectious Disease Law and the Quarantine Act (Act No. 201 of 1951) categorize the new influenza and provide quarantine and hospitalization measures in order to implement countermeasures immediately after outbreak. 3) Improvement and expansion of preventive measures against epidemics, such as establishment of provisions for requesting health condition reports and a voluntary ban on leaving home from people suspected of the new influenza infection, and addition of non-medical facilities for isolation and detainment. 	

Title: Act to Partially Amend the Long-Term Care Insurance Act and the Act for the Welfare of the Aged	
Promulgation Date: May 28, 2008	Enforcement Date: May 1, 2009
Law number: 42	Division: Promotion Division, Health and Welfare Bureau for the Elderly
<p>1. Purpose of the law In order to prevent recurrence of wrongful act cases by long-term care service providers and promote fair operation of long-term care businesses, the law requires improving operational control frameworks emphasizing compliance with the law. The law also implements necessary revisions such as establishment of the right to inspect the headquarters premises of businesses and enacts countermeasures against avoidance of disposition by business operators who committed wrongful acts.</p> <p>2. Revision outline (1) Partial amendment to the Long-Term Care Insurance Act</p> <p>① Review of regulations on long-term care service providers</p> <p>A) The law stipulates that long-term care service providers (hereinafter referred to as "providers") shall have an obligation to improve operational control frameworks and shall be required to report the improvement status to their guidance and supervision officer*.</p> <p>B) Guidance and supervision officers referred in (A) may, when they find necessary, conduct on-site inspections and issue recommendations or orders for rectification.</p> <p>* Minister of Health, Labour, and Welfare for providers with establishments in 2 or more prefectures Prefectural governor for providers with establishments within the same prefecture Mayor of municipality for providers operating community-based service only within the same municipality</p> <p>② Countermeasures against avoidance of disposition</p> <p>A) The new law requires providers to provide notification of business closure not ex-post but prior to the fact.</p> <p>B) If a provider notifies business closure during an on-site inspection, it shall be included in causes of disqualification for designation and renewal.</p> <p>C) If a provider whose designation was canceled tries to stay in business by transferring the business to someone with whom they have a close relationship, it shall be included in causes of disqualification for designation and renewal.</p> <p>③ Review of causes of disqualification upon designation and renewal</p> <p>The new law revises the system which does not allow designation and renewal of other establishments (so-called guilt-by-association) without exception due to a designation cancellation of one establishment, and stipulates that establishments qualified may be designated and renewed.</p> <p>④ Measures to ensure services</p> <p>A) The law stipulates that the provider is obligated to take measures to ensure services to the recipients upon closure of business.</p> <p>B) Responsible person may issue recommendations or orders for improvement when he or she finds the provider has not fulfilled the obligation specified in (A).</p> <p>C) Minister of Health, Labour, and Welfare, Prefectural governor, and Mayor of municipality shall perform liaison and coordination work between related parties such as the provider and the users to ensure services for the users.</p> <p>⑤ Other revisions Providers who have committed false remuneration for long-term care shall be subject to compulsory collection of repayment and/or additional charges.</p> <p>(2) Partial amendment to the Act for the Welfare of the Aged The same revisions as in (1) and ② A) were provided concerning notification of abolition for in-home living support business for the elderly and pay nursing homes.</p> <p>(3) Enforcement Date May 1, 2009</p>	

Title: Act to Partially Amend the Act on Asbestos Health Damage Relief		
Promulgation Date: June 18, 2008	Enforcement Date: December 1, 2008	
Law number: 77	Division:	Workers' Compensation Administration Division, Worker's Compensation Department, Labour Standards Bureau (co-jurisdiction with Ministry of the Environment)
<p>1 Extension of the benefit period for medical expenses and treatment allowances Medical expenses, Medical treatment allowances shall be paid from the start date of medical treatment. * However, retroactive allowances shall be limited to 3 years prior from the time of application for certification. * If the total amount of medical expenses, etc. (medical expenses+medical treatment allowances+funeral service fee) is less than the amount of special survivor condolence money (special survivor condolence money+special funeral service fee which totals approximately 3,000,000 yen), the balance shall be paid as relief benefit adjustment money.</p> <p>2 Handling the cases of deceased persons who had not filed an application after the establishment of the system</p> <p>(1) Period of Claims Period of claims shall be possible for 5 years after death.</p> <p>(2) Relief benefit to deceased persons who had not filed an application Special survivor condolence money (approximately 3,000,000 yen) shall be paid.</p> <p>3 Extension of due date for request for special survivor condolence money and special survivor benefits Extension of due date for request for special survivor condolence money and special survivor benefits shall be extended until March 27, 2012.</p> <p>4 Expansion of coverage for special survivor benefits Survivors who are entitled to receive special survivor benefit shall be expanded to those of workers (or special insured persons) who died on or before March 26, 2006. * Limited to cases in which the right of receiving the survivor compensation benefits pursuant to the provision of the Worker's Accident Insurance Act lapses due to prescription (5 years)</p> <p>5 Investigation of places of businesses Thorough implementation of state-enforced investigation of establishments which were using asbestos and publication of its results</p>		

Title: Act to Partially Amend the Atomic Bomb Survivors' Assistance Act	
Promulgation Date: June 18, 2008	Enforcement Date: December 15, 2008
Law number: 78	Division: General Affairs Division, Health Service Bureau
<p>1 Purpose For those who do not reside or are not currently in the country, the law allows for them to apply for the official designation as Atomic bomb survivor, or hibakusha, outside Japan. This is in addition to the current ability to apply in Japan.</p> <p>2 Contents (The official designation as Atomic bomb survivor application of those who do not reside or are not currently in the country) For those who wish to be designated as Atomic bomb survivor and do not reside or are not currently in the country, the government ordinance specifies that the application shall be submitted to the prefectural governor (of Hiroshima or Nagasaki, or mayor of Hiroshima or Nagasaki) who exercise jurisdiction over the location of the site where the person was said to have been bombed.</p>	

Title: Act to Partially Amend the Act on Promotion of Resolution of Issues Related to Hansen's Disease	
Promulgation Date: June 18, 2008	Enforcement Date: April 1, 2009
Law number: 82	Division: Diseases Control Division, Health Service Bureau
<p>[Purpose] The law shall provide for necessary matters concerning promotion of resolution of persisting issues (issues related to Hansen's disease) in relation to welfare enhancement for former patients with Hansen's disease resultant of national quarantine policy.</p> <p>[Principal contents]</p> <p>1 Repeal of the "Act on Repeal of the Leprosy Prevention Act" (established in 1996) The new law repeals said law and re-establishes the provisions for grounds of guarantee of accommodation at the National Hansen's Disease Sanatorium in said law.</p> <p>2 Guarantee of accommodation and living standard at the National Hansen's Disease Sanatorium Implementation of the following new measures in addition to existing guarantee of accommodation and living standard to admitted or re-admitted patients</p> <p>① The new law stipulates that the ground and facilities of the National Hansen's Disease Sanatorium may be provided for local residents' use.</p> <p>② New "non-admitted patients" (*) may be admitted to the National Hansen's Disease Sanatorium if they wish.</p> <p>③ Improvement of the living and medical environment of the National Hansen's Disease Sanatorium (such as securing physicians, nurses, and caregivers)</p> <p>④ Ensuring that patients admitted at private Hansen's Disease sanatoriums can receive necessary medical care</p> <p>* "non-admitted patients" : those who are former patients with Hansen's disease who have never been admitted to the National Hansen's Disease Sanatorium before the repeal of the Leprosy Prevention Law (March 31, 1996) and provided by Minister of Health, Labour, and Welfare</p> <p>3 Promotion of social rehabilitation and support for life in the society Legal clarification concerning measures currently operated as budget measures, such as payments of preparation allowance for leaving the sanatorium, grant for dismissed and non-admitted patients, consultation and information services</p> <p>4 Restoration of honor, remembrance of the dead Enlightenment of history, establishment of a resource center of Hansen's disease, preservation of historic landmarks, remembrance of the dead, etc.</p>	

Title: Act to Partially Amend the Labor Standards Act	
Promulgation Date: December 12, 2008	Enforcement Date: April 1, 2010
Law number: 89	Division: Supervision Division, Labour Standards Bureau
<p>1 Purpose Corresponding to the continuing high percentage of people working long hours, required revisions were provided in order for people to be able to work securing living hours.</p> <p>2 Outline</p> <p>(1) Limitation on overtime work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regarding statutory premium wage rate for overtime work which exceeds 60 hours in one month, the current rate of 25 % or more shall be raised to 50 % or more (application of the new rate shall be suspended for the time being for small-and-medium-sized businesses.) ▪ If a labour-management agreement can be concluded at the place of business, paid leave may be granted to workers who have worked more than 60 hours of overtime in one month in lieu of premium wage payment for the balance amount provided by the revised law (25 % representing the difference between the current rate of 25 % and the revised rate of 50 %). ▪ Following provisions are stipulated concerning “Standard of limit for overtime work” (Ministry of Labour Announcement No. 154 in 1998). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① Premium wage rate for overtime work exceeding the limit hours should be provided in overtime work agreement with special clause. ② The rate in ① should be ensured to be above the statutory premium wage rate (25 % or higher). ③ Overtime work exceeding the hours limit should be minimized. <p>(2) Annual paid leave</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instead of acquiring annual paid leave by the day as is current practice, if a labour-management agreement is concluded at the place of business, paid leave may be acquired by the hour with limits of 5 days per year. 	

Title: Act to Partially Amend the Act on Employment Promotion etc. of Persons with Disabilities	
Promulgation Date: December 26, 2008	Enforcement Date: April 1, 2009 (See below for amendments with separate enforcement dates)
Law number: 96	Division: Employment Measures for Persons with Disabilities Division, Employment Security Bureau
<p>Contents:</p> <p>The law was revised to further promote employment of disabled persons by promoting employment of the disabled in small and medium-sized businesses and taking an approach to part-time work system. The outline is as follows:</p> <p>1 Promotion of employment of disabled persons in small and medium-sized businesses</p> <p>①Expansion of the scope of application for disabled persons' employment payment system Subjects to disabled persons' employment payment system are expanded in stages to small and medium-sized companies with 101 or more regular workers (for employers with 201 or more regular workers from July 2010, and employers with 101 or more regular workers from April 2015)</p> <p>②Special measures concerning calculation in disabled persons' employment rate system Establishment of a structure which enables calculation combining both actual employment rates from cooperative business associations and from small and medium-sized companies which are members of associations, if small and medium-sized companies take advantage of cooperative business associations, employ disabled persons and associate on a conjoint basis.</p> <p>2 Review of employment rate system corresponding to part-time work system Part-time workers shall be included as subjects to employment obligation and counted as 0.5 persons in disabled persons' employment rate system</p> <p>3 Other Establishment of a structure which enables calculation of actual employment rates of the whole business group even if there are no special subsidiary companies (Effective April, 2009)</p>	

Title: Act to Partially Amend the National Health Insurance Act	
Promulgation Date: December 26, 2008	Enforcement Date: April 1, 2009
Law number: 97	Division: National Health Insurance Division, Health Insurance Bureau
Contents: Regarding handling of the certificate of qualification issued due to delinquency in payment of an insurance premium, the certificate of qualification shall not be issued to the insured in middle school and younger in a household to which certification of qualification is issued, but an insurance card valid for 6 months shall be issued	

Title: Act to Partially Amend the Employment Insurance Act	
Promulgation Date: March 30, 2009	Enforcement Date: March 31, 2009
Law number: 5	Division: Employment Insurance Division, Employment Security Bureau
<p>(Contents)</p> <p>In the light of the current stringent employment and unemployment situation, the following revisions were provided regarding the employment insurance system in order to reinforce the safety net for irregular workers and re-employment support for the unemployed.</p> <p>1 Reinforcement of the safety net for irregular workers Workers who had terminable contracts and left work because their contracts were not renewed shall be qualified after 6 months of insured period since the coverage is extended by relaxing the operational standard from "likely to be employed for one or more years" to "for 6 months or longer", and at the same time, number of benefit days shall be the same as of the unemployed who were laid off.</p> <p>2 Reinforcement of support in the case of difficulty in seeking employment If reemployment is especially difficult for the unemployed who left work due to lay-offs or their work contracts not being renewed, considering their age and location, number of payment days shall be extended for 60 days,</p> <p>3 Reinforcement of incentives for stable reemployment As for reemployment allowance, the benefit rate shall be raised and the qualifications for payment shall be relaxed. As for preparation allowance for permanent employment, the benefit rate shall be raised and the coverage shall be expanded for more people.</p> <p>4 Review of child-care leave benefit Temporary measures raising the benefit rate until the end of March 2010 shall be extended for the time being, and the benefit which is paid in two separate payments during the leave and after returning to work shall be consolidated into one payment and paid during the leave.</p> <p>5 Reduction of employment insurance rate Employment insurance rate concerning unemployment benefits shall be reduced from current rate of 1.2 % to 0.8 %, for FY 2009.</p>	

3 Chronological Table

Year	Prime Minister	Minister of Health and Welfare	Minister of Labour	Background to the Era	Measures, etc.
1938	Konoe	Kido Hirose Obara, Akita Yoshida Yasui, Kanemitsu S. Koizumi		1938 Establishment of Ministry of Health and Welfare	1937 Health Center Act
	Hiranuma				1938 National Health Insurance Act
	Abe				1939 Employees Health Insurance Act, Seamen's Insurance Act
	Yonai				1941 Workers Pension insurance Act
	Konoe				1944 Employees' Pension Insurance Act
1945	Tojo	Hirose, Aikawa Okada Matsumura Ashida Kawai, Ichimatsu		1945 End of War	1944 Former Public Assistance Act
	Koiso				1946 Labour Relations Adjustment Act
	K. Suzuki				1947 New Health Center Act
	Higashikuni				1947 Food Sanitation Act
	Shidehara				1947 Child Welfare Act
	Katayama	Katayama, Ichimatsu	Yonekubo	1946 Promulgation of Japanese Constitution	1947 Labour Standards Act
					1947 Workmen's Accident Compensation Insurance Act
					1947 Employment Security Act
					1947 Unemployment Insurance Act
					1948 Preventive vaccination Act
	Ashida	Takeda	Katou	1947 Establishment of Ministry of Labour 1947 First baby boom	1948 Medical Care Act
					1948 Medical Doctor Act, Dentist Act, Act for Public Health Nurses, Midwives and Nurses
					1949 Act for the Welfare of People with Physical Disabilities
					1949 Trade union Act
					1949 Emergency unemployment Measures Act
	Yoshida	Yoshida J. Hayashi	Yoshida Masuda	1950 Korean War (Special procurement boom)	1950 Mental Hygiene Act
					1950 New Public Assistance Act
					1951 Tuberculosis Prevention Act
					1951 Social Welfare Service Act
					1951 Children's Charter
	Hatoyama	Tsurumi Kawasaki Kobayashi	Chiba Nishida Kuraishi	1952 Peace Treaty	1952 Act for the Relief of War victims and Survivors
					1954 Refuse Act
					1954 Employees' Pension Insurance Act amendment (introduction of a fixed portion and an increase in the pensionable age to the 60)
					1957 Water Supply Act
					1958 National Health Insurance Act amendment (insurance coverage for whole population)
	Ishibashi	Kanda	Matsui	"iwato" economic boom	1959 National Pension Act (pension coverage for whole Population)
					1960 Act for the Welfare of Mentally Retarded People
					1960 Pharmaceutical Affairs Act
					1960 Income doubling plan
					1961 Child Rearing Allowance Act
	Kishi	Horiki Hashimoto (Ryugo) Sakata	Ishida Kuraishi	1964 Tokyo Olympics "zanagi" economic boom	1962 Act for Maternal and Child Welfare
					1964 Act concerning Special Child Rearing Allowance
					1965 Employees' Pension Insurance Act amendment (¥10,000 pension, Employees' Pension Fund)
					1965 Maternal and Child Health Act
					1965 Mental Hygiene Act amendment (introduction of Public-funded hospital visit medical care)
	Ikeda	R. Watanabe Nakayama	Matsuno Ishida	1970 Aging rate exceeds 7%.	1966 National Health Insurance Act amendment (70% benefit introduced)
					1966 Employment Measures Act
					1967 Pollution Control Basic Act
					1967 First-Term Basic Employment Measures Plan
					1969 Employees' Pension Insurance Act amendment (¥20,000 pension)
	Sato	Z. Suzuki Bo Sonoda N. Saito	Kodaira Yamate Hayakawa Ogawa Hara	1971 Establishment of Environmental Agency 1971 Dollar shock	1970 Waste Disposal Act
					1970 Five-Year Plan for the Emergency Provision of Social Welfare Facilities
					1970 Industrial Homework Act
					1971 Child Allowance Act
					1971 Act concerning Stabilization of Employment of Older Persons

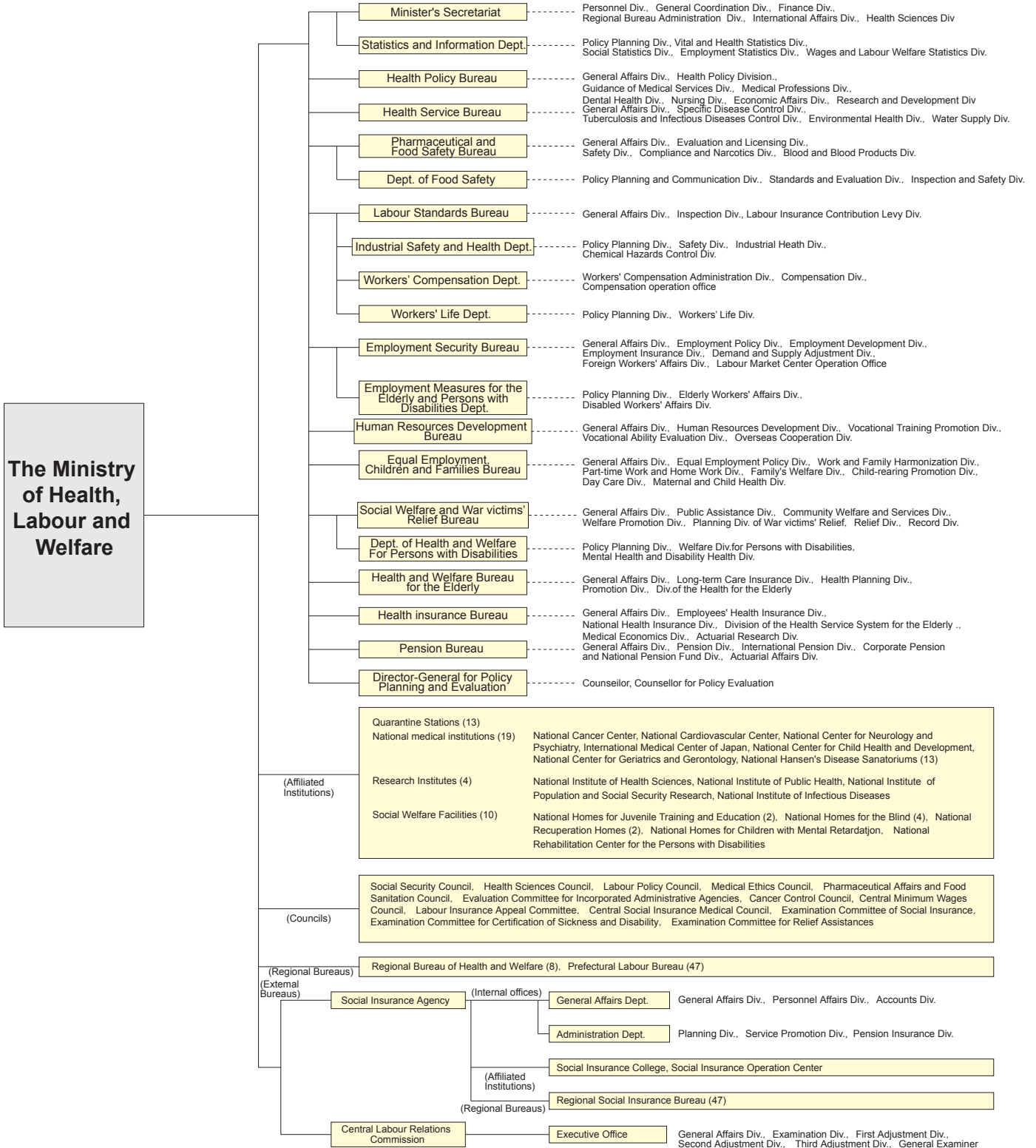
Year	Prime Minister	Minister of Health and Welfare	Minister of Labour	Background to the Era	Measures, etc.
1975	Tanaka	Shiomi K. Saito	Tsukahara Tamura Katou Hasegawa	1971 Second baby boom 1972 Sapporo Olympics 1973 First year of welfare 1973 Oil shock	1973 Welfare Act for the Elderly amendment (free medical care for the elderly)
					1973 Health Insurance Act amendment (70% benefit for dependents, and high-cost medical care expenses)
					1973 Pension system reform (¥50,000 pension, commodity price sliding scale system introduced)
					1974 Employment Insurance Act
					1975 International Women's Year
	Miki	S. Tanaka Hayakawa	Hasegawa Urano	1975 International Year of the Child	1977 Employment Insurance Act amendment (start of employment security program)
					1978 National health improvement measures
					1979 Pharmaceutical Affairs Act amendment (Stricter new drug approval process, adverse drug reaction recording system, reevaluation, GMP, etc. are stipulated by law.)
					1979 Act on the Drug Fund for Adverse Reaction Relief
					1980 Baby hotel problem
	Fukuda	M. Watanabe Ozawa	Ishida Fujii	1980 Second Provisional Commission on Administrative Reform (financial reconstruction)	1981 Child Welfare Act amendment, implementation of extended and evening-and night-hour child care
					1981 International Year of Disabled Persons
					1981 U.S.-Japan Trade Friction
					1983 United Nation's Decade for Disabled Persons Population concentration in Tokyo
					1983 Treatment Tank Act
	Ohira	Hashimoto (Ryutaro) Noro	Fujii Kurihara Fujinami	1984 Employment Insurance Act amendment (establishment of systems for reemployment allowance and benefits for older job applicants)	1982 Long-term plan concerning measures for people with disabilities
					1982 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly
					1982 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly
					1982 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly
					1982 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly
	Z. Suzuki	K. Saito Sonoda Murayama	Fujio	1985 Medical Service Act amendment (medical care plans)	1982 Home helpers (substantial increase, abolition of income restrictions)
					1985 Human Resources Development Promotion Act
					1985 Worker Dispatch Act
					1985 Act for Equal Employment Opportunity of Men and Women
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
	Nakasone	Y. Hayashi K. Watabe	Oono Sakamoto	1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)	1982 Home helpers (substantial increase, abolition of income restrictions)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
	Masuoka	Yamaguchi	Imai	1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)	1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
	Takehita	Fujimoto	Nakamura	1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)	1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
	Uno	Toida	Fukushima	1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)	1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
	Kaifu	Tsuhama	Tsukahara	1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)	1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
	Miyazawa	Yamashita	Kondo	1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)	1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
	Y. Niwa	Murakami	Sakaguchi	1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)	1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
	Hosokawa	Ouchi	Sakaguchi	1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)	1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
	Hata	K. Hatoyama		1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)	1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)
					1986 Health and Medical Service Act for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly)

Year	Prime Minister	Minister of Health and Welfare	Minister of Labour	Background to the Era	Measures, etc.
1994	Mirayama	Ide	Hamamoto	1994 Aging rate exceeds 14%.	1994 Pension system reform (review of the Old-Age Employees' Pension for people in their early 60s)
					1994 Formulation of the Angel Plan
					1994 Formulation of the New Gold Plan
					1994 New 10-Year Strategy to overcome Cancer
					1994 Amendment to the Act concerning Stabilization of Employment of Older Persons (mandatory 60-year-old retirement age; obliging employers to endeavor to continue employment up to 65 years old)
				1995 Great Hanshin/Awaji Earthquake	1994 Employment Insurance Act amendment (establishment of continued employment benefit for old age and child-care leave benefit)
					1994 Act to promote the implementation of program for water quality conservation of raw water for water systems
					1995 Act Concerning Support for the Atomic Bomb Exposed
					1995 Enactment of the Container and Package Recycling Act
					1995 Formulation of the Government Action Plan for Persons with Disabilities
		Morii	Aoki		1995 Mental Health Act amendment (establishment of the system to provide a health and welfare handbook for people with Mental disorders; change of the title into the Act on Mental Health and Welfare for people with Mental Disorders)
					1995 Child Care Leave Act amendment (establishment of family-care leave system; change of the title into the Act Concerning the Welfare of Workers Who Take Care of Children and other Family Members. Including Child Care Leave and Family Care Leave)
					1995 New comprehensive employment measures
					1996 Leprosy Prevention Act abolished
					1996 Pharmaceutical Affairs Act amendment (improvement of measures to ensure drug safety)
	Hashimoto (Ryutaro)	Kan	Nagai	Social security reform	1997 Waste Management and Public Cleanliness Act amendment (clarification of procedures for establishing facilities; Countermeasures against illegal dumping, etc.)
					1997 Mental Health Welfare Professional Act
					1997 Child Welfare Act amendment (child care system reform)
					1997 Health Insurance Act amendment (80% benefits for the insured)
					1997 Organ Transplantation Act
		J. Koizumi	Okano	Currency crises in Asia	1997 Long-term Care Insurance Act
					1997 Amendment to the Act for Equal Employment Opportunity of Men and Women (to prohibit discrimination against women)
					1998 Agreement between Japan and Germany on social security (Coming into effect on February 1, 2000)
					1998 Infectious Disease Prevention Act
					1998 Comprehensive Plans for vitalizing employment
	Obuchi	Miyashita	Amari	1998 Nagano Olympics	1999 Emergency employment measures
					1999 Formulation of the new Angel Plan
					1999 Mental Health Welfare Professional Act amendment (to add home help and short stay services to in-home welfare) programs; clarification of requirements for involuntary hospitalization for medical care and protection)
					1999 Agreement between Japan and Great Britain on social security (Coming into effect on February 1, 2001)
					2000 Pension system reform (adjustment of total benefit amount growth, etc.)
	Mori	Y. Niwa	Makino	Sharp rise in total unemployment rate 1999 International Year of Older Persons	2000 Medical Practitioners Act amendment (Clinical training became mandatory.)
					2000 Social Welfare Act
					2000 Labour Contract Succession Act
					2000 Child Abuse Prevention Act
					2000 Amendment to the Child Allowance Act (extension of benefit period up to before compulsory education)
		Sakaguchi	Sakaguchi	2001 Inauguration of Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	2001 Defined Benefits Corporate Pension Act and Defined Contribution Pension Act
					2001 Act Concerning the Payment of Compensation to Patients Institutionalized in Hansen's Disease Sanatoriums
					2001 Social security system reform outline
					2001 Act on Promoting the Resolution of Individual Labour Disputes
					2001 Amendment to the Act Concerning the Welfare of Workers Who Take Care of Children and other Family Members. Including Child Care Leave and Family Care Leave (restriction on overtime work)
	J. Koizumi			2003 Iraq War	2001 Comprehensive employment measures
					2002 Government-Labour-Management Agreement on Work-sharing
					2002 Act on Assistance Dogs for the Disabled
					2002 Amendments to the Pharmaceutical Affairs Act and the Bleeding and Blood Donor Supply Service Control Act (improvement of post-marketing safety measures; drastic overhaul of the Blood Act)
					2002 Health Promotion Act
					2002 Amendment to the Health Insurance Act (reinforcement of penalty on imported food, etc.)
					2002 Act on Special Measures for Self-Sufficiency Support for the Homeless
					2002 Government-Labour-Management Agreement on Employment
					2002 Programs to accelerate reforms
					2002 Government-Labour-Management Agreement on Diversified Work Patterns and Work-sharing
					2003 Revision of Food Sanitation Act (Review based on the enactment of Food Safety Basic Act)
					2003 Act to Promote Measures to Support the Development of the Next Generation
					2003 Child Welfare Act amendment (child rearing support programs stipulated by law)
					2003 Act Concerning Special Measures to Support Employment of Mothers in Fatherless Families
					2003 Basic Act on Measures for Society with Decreasing Birthrate
					2003 Act Concerning Medical Treatment and observation of individuals Who Have Committed Grave Acts against others while in a State of insanity
					2003 Employment Insurance Act amendment (promotion of early reemployment)
					2003 New Government Action Plan for Persons with Disabilities
					2003 Labour Standards Act amendment (development of rules on dismissal, review on terminable contracts and free time systems)
					2003 Infectious Disease Prevention Act and Quarantine Act amendment (improvement and reinforcement of measures against infectious diseases)

Year	Prime Minister	Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare	Background to the Era	Measures, etc.
2005		Otsuji		<p>2004 Third-term Comprehensive 10-year Strategy for Cancer Control</p> <p>2004 Agreement between Japan and the U.S. on social security</p> <p>2004 Agreement between Japan and Republic of Korea on social security</p> <p>2004 Act for Special Disability Benefits for Specified Persons with Disabilities</p> <p>2004 Amendment to the Child Abuse Prevention Act (Review of the definition of child abuse, revision of responsibilities of national and local governments, etc.)</p> <p>2004 Outline of countermeasures to society with declining birthrate</p> <p>2004 Amendment to the Child Allowance Act (expanding the eligibility to children who have not completed the third grade of elementary school)</p> <p>2004 Amendment to the Child Welfare Act (Enhancement of child guidance systems)</p> <p>2004 Amendment to the Act Concerning the Welfare are of Workers Who Take Care of Children and Other Family Members. Including Child Care Leave and Family Care Leave (Expansion of the scope of workers eligible for leave)</p> <p>2004 Development of specific plans for the implementation of priority measures based on the outline of countermeasures to society with declining birthrate (support plans for children and child-rearing)</p> <p>2004 Water service vision</p> <p>2004 Pension system reform (introduction of mechanisms of fixing upper limit of premiums and of automatic adjustment of benefit levels; establishment of the Pension Reserve Fund Administration and Investment Agency, etc.)</p> <p>2005 Agreement between Belgium & Japan on social security signed (Effective on January 1, 2007)</p> <p>2005 Agreement between France & Japan on social security signed (Effective on June 1, 2007)</p> <p>2005 Basic law on nutritional education</p> <p>2005 Amendment to the Trade Union Act (Improvement of unfair labour practice review process and system)</p> <p>2005 Amendment to the Long-term Care Insurance Act (shift to a system with an emphasis placed on preventive measures, etc.)</p> <p>2005 Enactment of Services and Supports for Persons with Disabilities Act (Creation of a structure which provides services in an integrated manner regardless of the type of disabilities)</p>
		Kawasaki		
2007	Abe	Yanagisawa		<p>2007 Agreement between Australia & Japan on social security signed (Effective on January 1, 2009)</p> <p>2007 Amendments to the Employment Insurance Act (review of eligibility requirements)</p> <p>2007 Amendments to the Act on Improvement, etc. of Employment Management for Part-Time Workers ensuring balanced compensation for part-time workers)</p> <p>2007 Amendments to the Employment Measures Act and the Act on Promotion of Job Opportunities in Certain Regions (mandatory prohibition of age discrimination when accepting applications or hiring)</p> <p>2007 Act on Special Provisions for the Employees' Pension Insurance Act, etc. Incidental to Enforcement of International Social Security Agreements (establishment of a blanket provision in place of special implementation provisions enacted with each country-specific agreement)</p> <p>2007 Japan Pension Organization Act</p> <p>2007 Act to partially amend the National Pension Act to improve operations of public pension businesses</p> <p>2007 Act on Special Provisions concerning Prescription for Insurance Benefit of Employees' Pension Insurance and Benefit of National Pension (special provisions on prescription of entitlement concerning pension record correction)</p>
	Fukuda	Masuzoe		
2008	Asou			<p>2008 Agreement between the Netherlands & Japan on social security signed (Effective on March 1, 2009)</p> <p>2008 Agreement between Czech Republic & Japan on social security signed (Effective on June 1, 2009)</p> <p>2008 New employment strategies</p> <p>2008 Agreement between Spain & Japan on social security signed</p> <p>2008 Amendments to the Labor Standards Act (expansion of pay rate for overtime work)</p>
2009				<p>2009 Agreement between Republic of Italy & Japan on social security signed</p> <p>2009 Government-Labor-Management Agreement toward realizing stabilization and creation of employment</p> <p>2009 Amendments to the Act on Child or Nursing Care Leave (mandatory system for short-time working)</p>

4 Structure of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Organizational Chart of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (as of April 1,2009)



5 List of Major Health, Labour and Welfare Statistical Surveys

1. Population, Health and Welfare in General

Name of Survey	Objectives	Contents	Target	Frequency	Time of Release
Vital Statistics Survey (Fundamental Statistical Survey) Vital and Health Statistics Division, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Gather information about vital statistical data and obtain basic information for the measures related to health, labour and welfare administration	Matters related to live births, deaths, foetal deaths, marriages and divorces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Live births, deaths, marriages and divorces notified to municipalities and wards, including ones for those Japanese who reside overseas Foetal deaths notified to municipalities and wards 	Monthly	Prompt reports: two months after the survey month Monthly reports: about five months after the survey month Annual estimates: January 1 of the Year after the survey Preliminary annual report: June of the year after the survey year Vital Statistics of Japan (Final): September of the year after the survey year
Longitudinal Survey of Babies in 21st Century (General statistical Survey) Social Statistics Division, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Collect basic information for planning and executing health, labour and welfare measures such as measures to reverse birthrate decline by conducting survey on babies born in the first year of the 21st century and continuous observation of such babies	Composition of the family, employment, child-rearing attitude, house-work for the couple, sharing of child-rearing, how the couple solve problems related to child-rearing, eating habits, types of plays, injuries and diseases, etc.	All babies who were born during the two 17-day periods starting from January 10, 2001, and from July 10, 2001	Annual	Released immediately after compilation
Comprehensive Survey of Living Conditions (Fundamental Statistical Survey) Comprehensive Survey of Living Conditions office, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Understand basic matters of people's life including health, medical care, welfare, pension, income, and obtain principal information necessary for planning health, labour and welfare measures	Household occupation/structure/type, household expenses, enrollment in medical insurance, conditions of people requiring long-term care, conditions of main caregivers, use of in-home services, employment status, enrollment in and receipt of public pension, receipt of inpatient/outpatient care, perceived health, conditions of injuries and diseases, income amount by source, taxation, daily living awareness, current savings, current debts, etc.	Households and household members nationwide (About 290,000 households and 760,000 people are sampled for the every-three-year large-scale survey and about 50,000 households and 150,000 people for other years' surveys)	Annual (The most recent large-scale survey was conducted in 2007.)	Released immediately after compilation
Longitudinal Survey of Adults in 21st Century (General statistical Survey) Social Statistics Division, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Aim at collecting basic information for planning and executing health, labour and welfare measures such as measures to reverse birthrate declining by conducting survey on male and female samples and continuous observation of their awareness	Composition of the family, status of household economy, employment, health conditions, use of work and child rearing harmonization support systems, etc.	Men and women and their spouses of ages 20 to 34 as of the end of October 2002	Annual	Released immediately after compilation
Longitudinal Survey of Middle and Elderly Persons (General statistical Survey) Social Statistics Division, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Conducted on middle-aged and elderly men and women from the age 50 to 59 including baby-boom generations to collect basic information for planning and executing health, labour and welfare measures. Examples include measures for the elderly through continuous study of the process of change in the mental aspects and facts on their health, work, and social activities as well as identifying changes in behavior or association between events	family status, health conditions, employment conditions, social activities, housing and family income and expenditure status	Men and women who were aged from 50 to 59 on October 31, 2005	Annual	Released immediately after compilation
Survey on the Redistribution of Income (General statistical Survey) Counsellor for Policy Evaluation Office, Director-General for Policy Planning and Evaluation	Identify what impact benefits and burdens under the social security system and burdens under the taxation system have on income redistribution and determine the degree of penetration and effect of social security measures	Gender, birth year and month, contributions (life insurance or nonlife insurance premiums, taxes), benefits received (life insurance or nonlife insurance payments), receipt of inpatient/outpatient care, means for payment of medical bills, receipt of child care and long-term care	Households and household members nationwide (About 15,000 households are sampled.)	Every three years (The most recent survey was conducted in 2008.)	Released immediately after compilation
Survey on Enrollment Public Pension (General statistical Survey) Actuarial and Research Office, Social Insurance Agency	Gather basic information for the administration of the National Pension through understanding the relationships between the participation in public pension and household status, employment status and regional characteristics and through identifying public knowledge on public pension and reasons for not participating in public pension	Employment conditions, schooling conditions, participation in public pension, reason for not participating in public pension, participation in medical insurance, life planning after retirement, knowledge on public pension system	200,000 household members aged 15 and over	Every three years (The most recent survey was conducted in 2004.)	Released immediately after compilation
Survey on the Insured of National Pension (General statistical Survey) Actuarial and Research Office, Social Insurance Agency	As for the primary insured of the National Pension, identify the actual status of the insured by condition of payment of pension premium. Collect information necessary for the administration of the National Pension such as income of the insured, awareness of the insured toward the National Pension and reason for not paying premiums	Occupation, household status, spending status, knowledge on the National Pension system, matters relating to premiums, matters relating to premiums to be borne by students, reasons for not paying premiums, life planning after retirement, public information, pension counseling and needed information, etc.	60,000 primary insured of the National Pension	Every three years (The most recent survey was conducted in 2008.)	Released immediately after compilation
Survey on the Insured of National Pension (Business statistics) Actuarial and Research Office, Social Insurance Agency	Same as above	Income status, reason for Exempt from premium payment, etc.	120,000 primary insured of the National Pension	Every three years (The most recent survey was conducted in 2008.)	Released immediately after compilation

2 Social Welfare Statistics

Name of Survey	Objectives	Contents	Target	Frequency	Time of Release
Report on Social Welfare Administration and Services (General statistical Survey) Social Statistics Division, Statistics and information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Quantitatively identify the actual situation of social welfare administration in the prefectures, designated cities and core cities, and obtain basic information for the operation of the administration pursuant to enforcement of social welfare-related laws and regulations	Data on social welfare administration services conducted in individual prefectures, designated cities and core cities	Prefectures, designated cities and core cities	Monthly and annual	(Annual) Late September
Survey of Social Welfare Institutions (General statistical Survey) Social Statistics Division, Statistics and information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Gather data on the number of social welfare institutions across the country to obtain basic information for promotion of social welfare administration	Administrative bodies, capacity, residents and employees of the institutions	All social welfare facilities, etc. nationwide	Annual	Late September
Survey of Regional Child Welfare Services (General statistical Survey) Equal Employment, Children and Families Bureau, General Affairs Division	Collect data on actual situations with municipal governments (including special wards) such as their efforts toward child welfare focused on child-care to obtain basic information to promote child welfare measures which accurately respond to diversified demand	Questionnaire on municipal projects flexibility status of day-care center capacity, introduction status of nursery teachers working on a short-time basis, status of outsourcing the administrative work related to child-care fee reception to private individuals	Municipal governments, special wards	Annual	Late August
Survey of Institutions and Establishments for Long-term Care (General statistical Survey) Social Statistics Division, Statistics and information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Collect data on nationwide long-term care services provision systems and types of services to obtain basic information about long-term care services infrastructure with an emphasis on the provision system	Name of facilities and establishment, location, administrative body, status of services, number of workers	All facilities and establishments covered by long-term care insurance nationwide	Annual	Late September
Survey of Medical Care Activities in Public Health Insurance (General statistical Survey) Social Statistics Division, Statistics and information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Collect data on medical treatment, conditions of injuries and diseases, administration of drugs, dispensing, etc. of the beneficiaries of medical benefits covered by government, union and national health insurance, to obtain basic information on medical insurance administration	Medical fee bill Age, name of injuries or diseases, actual number of days necessary for medical treatment, points for and number of times and medical treatment, and administration of drugs(drug name, dosage, etc.) Dispensing fee bill Age, number of times of dispensing prescription received, number of times and points by dispensing, administration of drugs (drug name, dosage, etc.)	Medical fee bills (400,000 bills) and dispensing fee bills (80,000 bills) submitted to the prefectural payment fund branches and Federation of National Health Insurance Associations by medical institutions and pharmacies covered by health insurance respectively for examination and decision on payment in June	Annual	Late June
Survey of Long-term Care Benefit Expenditures (General statistical Survey) Social Statistics Division, Statistics and information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Identify the status of benefit expenditure relating to receiving long-term care services to obtain basic information necessary for smooth operation of the long-term care insurance system including the revision of long-term care service remuneration	Long-term care benefit statements Number of beneficiaries by type of long-term care service, number of cases, number of times, number of units and expense by service content	All long-term care benefit statement and main registers of various types for which review and payment have been completed by the Federation of National Health Insurance Associations in each prefecture	Annual	Prompt reports: next month of the next day Annual report: late September
Fact-finding Survey on Economic Conditions in Long-term Care (General statistical Survey) Health and Welfare Bureau for the Elderly, Division of the Health for the Elderly	Collect basic information for setting long-term care benefits by having a clear picture of actual conditions with the cost for each long-term care service. This is due to long-term care benefits being set based on the amount of the average cost of each service	Facilities covered by long-term care insurance, implementation status, revenue and expenditure status and condition of assets and liabilities of each designated in-home service provider (including preventive long-term care), community-based service provider (including preventive long-term care),	Designated facilities and business operators of long-term care insurance services (tiered according to each area classification and administrative body designated by Japanese Health Minister in accordance with Long-Term Care Insurance Act and approximately 1/6 were randomly selected)	Every three years (The most recent survey was conducted in 2008.)	Released immediately after compilation
Briefing Survey on Economic Conditions in Long-term Care (General statistical Survey) Health and Welfare Bureau for the Elderly, Division of the Health for the Elderly	Collect basic information for setting long-term care benefits by having a clear picture of actual conditions with the cost for each long-term care service. This is due to long-term care benefits being set based on the amount of the average cost of each service	Facilities covered by long-term care insurance, implementation status and revenue and expenditure status of each designated in-home service provider (including preventive long-term care), community-based service provider (including preventive long-term care)	Designated facilities and business operators of long-term care insurance services (tiered according to each area classification and administrative body designated by Japanese Health Minister in accordance with Long-Term Care Insurance Act and approximately 1/30 were randomly selected)	Every three years (The most recent survey was conducted in 2007.)	Released immediately after compilation

3 Health Statistics

Name of Survey	Objectives	Contents	Target	Frequency	Time of Release
Report on Public Health Administration and Services (General statistical Survey) Health Statistics Office, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Quantitatively identify the actual situation of public health administration in the prefectures, designated cities and core cities, and obtain basic information for the operation of the administration pursuant to enforcement of public health-related laws and regulations	Results of public health administration services in the prefectures, designated cities and core cities	Prefectures, designated cities and core cities	Every fiscal year, every other year (The most recent survey for the biennial report was conducted in 2008)	Annual report : late October Biennial report: mid July
Report on Regional Health Services and Health Promotion Services (General statistical Survey) Health Statistics Office, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Identify the development of health measures suitable for localities, for every health center and municipality, aiming at maintenance and promotion of health of local residents, and obtain basic information for efficient and effective promotion of local health measures by the national and local governments.	Conditions of maternal and child care service implementation, vaccination, conditions situations of communication and coordination among health centers, deployment of personnel, health center personnel assistance to municipalities, conditions of implementation of health service programs for the elderly	Health centers, municipal authorities	Every fiscal year	Last March
Survey of Medical Institutions (Fundamental Statistical Survey) Health Statistics Office, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Gather data on actual conditions regarding the distribution and development of hospitals and clinics, recognize clinical function of medical institutions, and obtain basic information for medical administration	Static Survey Name of facility, administrative body, number of beds approved, clinical specialties, number of staff, medical care and examination Dynamic Survey Name of facilities, location, Name of administrative body, types of administrative disposition, number of beds approved	Static survey Hospitals and clinics prescribed in the Medical Service Law Dynamic survey Medical institutions that made notification and disposals based on the Medical Service Law	Static survey Every three years (The most recent survey was conducted in 2008) Monthly for dynamic survey	Late October Monthly (preliminary)
Hospital Report (General statistical Survey) Health Statistics Office, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Gather information about the usage of and staff for hospitals and clinics with beds for sanatorium-type care nationwide and thus obtain basic information for medical administration	Patient questionnaire Number of inpatients, admitted patients, discharged patients, and outpatients Staff questionnaire Number of physicians, dentists, pharmacists, nurses	Hospitals and Clinics with beds for long term care nationwide	Patient questionnaire: Monthly Staff questionnaire: Annual	Late October Monthly (preliminary)
Survey of Physicians, Dentists and Pharmacists (General statistical Survey) Health Statistics Office, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Identify the distribution for physicians, dentists, and pharmacists, by sex, age, business category, place of work and department (not applicable for pharmacists) and obtain basic information for health, labour and welfare administration	Address, sex, birth date, business category, department (not applicable for pharmacists), place of work, etc.	Physicians, dentists and pharmacists nationwide	Every three years (The most recent survey was conducted in 2008.)	Early December
Patient Survey (Fundamental Statistical Survey) Health Statistics Office, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Gather information on the actual situation of injuries/diseases, etc. of patients who use medical facilities (hospitals and general and dental clinics) and thus obtain basic information for medical administration	Patients' sex, situation of medical care rendered, medical fee, etc. payment method, distinction of inpatient/outpatient, referrals, types of beds, status of inpatient care	All patients receiving medical services are sampled out of all medical care institutions nationwide. (About 6,600 hospitals, about 6,000 clinics and about 1,300 dental clinics)	Every three years (The most recent survey was conducted in 2008.)	Late November
National Health and Nutrition Survey (General statistical Survey) Office for Lifestyle-related Diseases Control, General Affairs Division, Health Service Bureau	Gather information about the actual conditions of people's bodies, dietary and nutritional intake and their life styles and thus obtain basic information for promoting comprehensive measures for people's health promotion	Meals eaten (including no meals, and eating out), names and quantity of food eaten, height, weight, blood pressure, blood tests, passometer, smoking, drinking, exercise habits, information on life styles, etc.	Households and household members nationwide (About 6,000 households and 18,000 people are sampled)	Annual	Released immediately after compilation
Survey of Production by Pharmaceutical Industry (Fundamental Statistical Survey) Economic Affairs Division, Health Policy Bureau	Determine the actual condition surrounding production and import/export of drugs, sanitary supplies, medical devices and quasi-drugs and thus obtain basic information for pharmaceutical administration	Production, shipment, monetary value and volume of end-of-the-month inventory by drug effect classification and usage, etc	Manufacturing sites and manufacturing sales offices of drugs, quasi-drug and medical devices	Monthly and annual	Prompt reports: two months after the survey month Monthly report: about four months later after the survey month Annual report: late June
Survey on Economic Conditions in Health Care (Medical Institution Survey) (General statistical Survey) Central Social Insurance Medical Council (Medical Economics Division, Health Insurance Bureau)	Unfold the actual condition of medical service operation at hospitals, general clinics, dental clinics and insurance pharmacies and prepare basic information on social insurance medical fee	(For hospitals) Financial balance, workers' salaries, asset amount, amount of liabilities, capital investment amount, etc. (For general clinics) Financial balance, asset amount, liability amount, capital investment amount, etc (For dental clinics) Financial balance, asset amount, liability amount, capital investment amount (For insurance pharmacies) Financial balance, asset amount, liability amount, capital investment amount, status of receiving prescriptions, etc.	Medical institution nationwide providing social insurance medical care etc. sampling rate (Hospitals: 1/5 General clinics: 1/25 Dental clinics: 1/50 Insurance Pharmacies: 1/25)	Every two years (The most recent survey was conducted in 2007.)	Prompt reports: About fifth month later after the survey This reports: About one year later after the survey

Name of Survey	Objectives	Contents	Target	Frequency	Time of Release
Survey on Economic Conditions in Health Care (Insurers Survey) (General statistical Survey) Central Social Insurance Medical Council (Actuarial Research Division, Health Insurance Bureau)	Correctly perceive the financial condition of medical insurance insures and prepare basic information on social insurance medical fees	Correctly perceive the financial condition of medical insurance insures and prepare basic information on social insurance medical fees	All health insurance societies and mutual aid societies nationwide	Every two years (The most recent survey was conducted in 2007.)	Prompt reports: About fifth month later after the survey This reports: About one year later after the survey
Patient's Behavior Survey (General statistical Survey) Health Statistics Office, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Survey patients who are users of medical institutions nationwide on the situations of medical care rendered and their satisfaction levels with care they received to identify patients' perception of medical services and their behaviors and thus obtain basic information for future medical administration	Reasons why they chose the hospital, information they wanted and were able to obtain, wait time, duration of treatment or consultation, quality of medical care provider's explanation, satisfaction level	Patients who used general hospitals nationwide (Approx. 500 facilities)	Every three years (The most recent survey was conducted in 2008.)	Late September
Survey on Businesses related to Environmental Health Environmental Health Division, Health Service Bureau	Investigate performance, and economic and social conditions of businesses related to environmental health to get basic information for preparing management guidelines indicating approaches necessary for sound management	Matters related to status of stores, management conditions, employees, facilities, equipment, managers' responsibilities	Matters related to status of stores, management conditions, employees, facilities, equipment, managers' responsibilities	Annual	About one year later after the survey

4 Employment Statistics

Name of Survey	Objectives	Contents	Target	Frequency	Time of Release
Monthly Labour Survey (Fundamental Statistical Survey) National Survey	Clarify changes on national level in employment, earnings and hours worked at establishments with 5 or more regular employees	Wage, hours worked, No. of regular employees, types of regular employees	16 major industries according to the Japan Standard Industrial Classification (JSIC) (revised in November 2007), establishments of 5 or more employees	Monthly	Provisional Report: following month-end of the survey month
Prefectural Survey	Clarify changes on prefectural level in employment, earnings and hours worked at establishments with 5 or more regular employees	Same as the national survey	Same as the national survey	Same as the national survey	Provisional Report: two months after the survey month
Special Survey Employment Statistics Division, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Clarify changes in employment, earnings and hours worked at small establishments with 1-4 regular employees	Wage, hours worked, No. of regular employees, length of service	16 major industries, establishments with 1-4 employees	Annual	December
Survey on Employment Trends (General statistical Survey) Employment Statistics Division, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Investigate conditions related to entering and leaving the labour force, and recruitment at establishments in principal industries; and individual worker's circumstances related to former jobs, entering and leaving the labour force, in order to obtain information on labour force mobility by industry, business scale, occupation, and region	Establishments: mobility of regular employees, unfilled job openings Hired employees: how they entered, whether they had previous jobs or not, how long they left the labour force, wage fluctuation Separated employees: occupation, length of service, reasons for leaving	16 major industries according to JSIC (revised in November 2007), establishments with 5 or more employees, and workers entered and left the labour force at the establishments surveyed during the survey year	Biannually	August for annual results, December for the first half-year results
Special Survey on Employment Structure (General statistical Survey)					
2008: Survey on Employment Conditions of Elderly Persons	Aimed to contribute to the future employment measures of the elderly by collecting data on the present conditions of the elderly and on the actual situations at the businesses after the revised Act on Stabilization of Employment of Elderly Persons took effect	Items regarding establishment's attributes, items regarding employment situations of the elderly, items regarding situations of mandatory retirement system, items regarding situations of retired elderly employees in the past one year at the businesses which stipulates mandatory retirement system	16 major industries according to the Japan Standard Industry Classification (revised in November 2007), private establishments with 5 or more regular employees	Every five years (The most recent survey was conducted in 2004.)	Schedule in August
2008: General Survey on Dispatched Workers	Collect data on changes in the employment and on the support situation for dispatched workers at the client's business as well as understanding actual situations of dispatcher workers in order to obtain basic information to study how the worker dispatching system should function in the future	(Survey on establishments) employment of dispatched workers, reasons for accepting them, job description of dispatched workers, number of dispatched workers, change in the number of dispatched workers, contract period of dispatched workers (Survey on dispatched workers) gender, age, education, type of dispatch work, current dispatch work description, working conditions, filing of complaints, requests for dispatching undertaking and client, dissemination of employment placement dispatching	(Survey on establishments) private establishments with 5 or more regular workers, engaged in the 16 major industries according to the Japan Standard Industry Classification (revised in November 2007) (Survey on dispatched workers) dispatched workers working at establishments stated above	Irregularity (The most recent survey was conducted in 2004.)	Schedule in October
Survey on Labour Economy Trend (General statistical Survey) Employment Statistics Division, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Study the influence of business trends and changes in the labour market on employment, working hours and wages, and understand business prospects and measures responding to such influence	Trends in output, sales, employment, working hours, excess and deficiency of workers, employment adjustment	12 major industries according to the Japan Standard Industry Classification (revised in November 2007), private establishments with 30 or more regular employees	Quarterly	August for annual results, December for the first half-year results

Name of Survey	Objectives	Contents	Target	Frequency	Time of Release
Fact-finding Survey on Home Work (General statistical Survey) Equal Employment, Children and Families Bureau Part-time Work and Home Work Division	Obtain basic information for carrying out measures for home work	Consignment conditions, etc. from consignors Working conditions, etc. of home-workers Actual situations of working at home, etc.	Extracted in certain methods from consignors, home-workers and order placing and accepting entities of in-home works	Irregularity (The most recent survey was conducted in 2006.)	To be published roughly after 6 months From the survey
Basic Survey of Gender Equality in Employment Management (name changed from "Basic Survey on Employment Management of Women" in 2007) (General statistical survey) Equal Employment Policy Division, Equal Employment, Children and Families Bureau Equal Employment, Children and Families Bureau Part-time Work and Home Work Division	Study the actual situations of employment management related to equal employment issues between men and women in major industries	FY 2008 survey: items regarding provisions and operation situations on childcare, family care leave and sick/injured child care leave systems	FY 2008 survey: private establishments with 5 or more regular workers, engaged in the 16 major industries	Annual	Released immediately after compilation
Basic Survey of Human Resources Development (General statistical Survey) General Affairs Division, Human Resource Development Bureau	Collect data separately between permanent employees and non-permanent employees on human resources development of enterprises, places of business and workers in order to improve human resources development measures	(Survey on enterprises) company profile, expenses for OFF-JT and self-development support (Survey on establishments) profile of establishment, implementation of education and training, human resource development, career building support, inheritance of skills (Survey on individual workers) workers' attributes, participation in education and training, participation in self-development, working life planning	Private enterprises with single or main establishment with 30 or more regular workers, engaged in the 15 major industries defined in the Japan Standard Industry Classification (Survey on establishments) private establishments with 30 or more regular workers, engaged in the 15 major industries defined in the Japan Standard Industry Classification (Survey on individual workers) workers employed at the establishments which are the targets of the survey on establishments	Annual	Released immediately after compilation
Human Resource Development Bureau General Affairs Division					

5 Wage and Labour Welfare Statistics

Name of Survey	Objectives	Contents	Target	Frequency	Time of Release
Basic Survey on Wage Structure (Fundamental Statistical Survey) Wages and Labour Welfare Statistics Division, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Clarify wage structure for regular employees in major industries, in terms of type of worker, type of occupation, sex, age, educational background, length of service and experience, etc.	Amounts of cash salary based on contract, overtime salary, annual bonuses, and other special salary; type of worker, type of occupation, position, sex, age educational background, length of service, starting salary of university graduates, etc.	Establishments in 16 major industries which employ 10 or more, or 5—9 regular workers (private establishments with 5—9 regular employees)	Annual	November (starting salary) February (Prompt report by prefecture) March (Nationwide)
General Survey on Working Conditions (General statistical Survey) Wages and Labour Welfare Statistics Division, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Conduct comprehensive Survey on wage system, working hour system, labour costs, welfare facilities and its system, retirement benefit system and payment of the benefits at enterprises	Items relating to working hour system, wage system, asset building and field office transferee with a spouse, etc.	Private companies of the 15 major industries whose headquarters hire 30 or more regular employees	Annual	October
Survey on Wage Increase (General statistical Survey) Wages and Labour Welfare Statistics Division, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Clarify the structure of wage revision in private enterprises (including those without labour union), including amount, rate, method, environment surrounding wage revision, and identify the effects of wage revisions on business management	Revised amount of average wage per worker, revision rate, method of revision, environment surrounding revision, effects of revision on business management, etc.	Private companies in 15 major industries with 100 or more regular employees (however, manufacturing, wholesale and retail trade are 30 people or more.)	Annual	December

Name of Survey	Objectives	Contents	Target	Frequency	Time of Release
General Survey on Labour Relations (General statistical Survey) ① Basic Survey on Labour Unions ② Survey on Status of Labour Unions Wages and Labour Welfare Statistics Division, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Investigate the numbers of unions, union members, affiliate unions, and clarify distribution of labour unions and union members by industry, region and upper affiliate unions, targeting all unions nationwide, to understand labour union structure Get a clear picture of labour-management relations including actual situation of labour unions, group negotiations, labour disputes, communications between labour and management, labour union activities, and contents of collective agreements (surveys are conducted on five themes in rotation for five years)	Type of labour union, applicable laws, number of union members, groups of affiliate unions (Year 2008 Survey: Survey on Status of Labour Unions) Labour union structure, union officials, actual situation of finance and activities of union	Labour unions nationwide Labor union of 30 number of labor unions scale people or more in the people business place in which it belongs to 14 large industries	Annual Annual	December June
Survey on Labour Disputes (General statistical Survey) Wages and Labour Welfare Statistics Division, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Investigate labour dispute situation	Total no. of workers involved in disputes, duration of action by type of action participated by members, no.	All establishments which have labour disputes	Monthly	August
Survey on Industrial Accidents (General statistical Survey) Wages and Labour Welfare Statistics Division, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Investigate the occurrence of industrial accidents biannually and annually in the major industries	Extended and actual working hours, number of deaths and injured persons and number of delayed and closed days by the degree of disability due to industrial accidents	(Survey on establishments) Establishments of major industries with 10 or more regular employees (10-29 regular employees in specified eight manufacturing industries) (Survey on general construction businesses) which pay ¥ 1.6 million of premium for workmen's accident compensation insurance, or construction sites whose contract price exceeds ¥ 190 million)	(Survey on establishments) Annual (Survey on general construction businesses) Biannually	(Survey on establishments) · Office of 100 regular employees or more: May · Office of 10 regular employees or more: December (Survey on general construction businesses) May
Survey on Technological Innovation and Labour (General statistical Survey) Wages and Labour Welfare Statistics Division, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Study effects of technological development on labour, such as workers' adaptation status, working environment, and safety and health management of workers in order to improve industrial safety and health measures	(Survey on establishments) Items regarding establishments' attributes, items regarding the use of computers, items regarding health management for VDT workers, etc. (Survey on employees) Items regarding workers' attributes, items regarding computer operation	(Survey on establishments) Private establishment of 16 major industries with 10 or more regular employees (Survey on employees) Workers employed at the above establishments	Every five years (The most recent survey was conducted in 2008.)	August
Survey on state of employees' Health (General statistical Survey) Wages and Labour Welfare Statistics Division, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat	Study employees' health conditions, implementation of health management measures and effects on workers' health in relation to occupational diseases	(Survey on establishments) Items regarding establishment's attributes, items regarding implementation of health management measures, etc. (Survey on employees) Items regarding worker's attributes, items regarding worker's performance, items regarding worker's health and voluntary health management, etc.	(Survey on establishments) establishments with 10 or more regular workers in forestry, mining, construction, manufacturing, electricity, gas, heat supply and water supply, information-communication, transportation, wholesale and retail, finance and insurance, real estate, restaurant, lodging, medical care, welfare, education, learning-support, multiple service and service businesses or industry (that cannot be classified otherwise) (Survey on workers) Workers employed at the above establishments	Every five years (The most recent survey was conducted in 2007.)	September

Name of Survey	Objectives	Contents	Target	Frequency	Time of Release
<p>Survey on Labour Environment (General statistical Survey)</p> <p>Wages and Labour Welfare Statistics Division, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat</p>	<p>Investigate the effects on workers of the increase of dangerous and harmful operations, changes in working procedure and environment, in order to carry out more effective safety and health measures such as creation of comfortable working environment</p>	<p>(Survey on establishments) Items regarding establishments, items regarding working environment, items regarding working environment of hazardous operations, etc. (Survey on employees) Items regarding worker's attributes, items regarding working environment, items regarding hazardous operations, items regarding organic solvent, etc. (Survey on tunnel and subway construction sites) Items regarding construction sites, items regarding working environment at construction sites, items regarding measures against dust</p>	<p>(Survey on establishments) Establishments with 10 or more regular employees in the industries including mining, manufacturing, transport (limited to land transport), services (limited to automobile repairing, machine and furniture repairing) (Survey on employees) Site workers employed at the above establishments (Survey on tunnel and subway construction sites) Construction companies (limited to tunnel and subway constructions) which pay roughly ¥ 1.6 million premium of workmen's accident compensation insurance, or whose contract price for the construction site exceeds ¥ 190 million</p>	<p>Every five years</p> <p>(The most recent survey was conducted in 2006.)</p>	<p>September</p>
<p>Basic Survey on Industrial Safety and Health (General statistical Survey)</p> <p>Wages and Labour Welfare Statistics Division, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat</p>	<p>Study safety and health management, measures for safety and health, safety and health facilities, and workers' awareness of safety and health, in order to promote industrial injury prevention measures including drawing up industrial injury prevention plans</p>	<p>(Survey on establishments) Items regarding establishment's attributes, items regarding safety and health management system, items regarding safety and health activities, items regarding industrial injuries, etc. (Survey on employees) Items regarding worker's attributes, items regarding industrial injury prevention, Presence of hiyari/hatto experience and matter concerning measures, etc.</p>	<p>(Survey on establishments) Private establishments with 10 or more regular workers in construction, manufacturing, electricity, gas, heat supply and water supply, information-communication (limited to telecommunications, audio and visual, textual information production), transportation, wholesale and retail, restaurant, lodging (limited to general restaurants and lodging industries), and laundry, hairdressing, beauty, public bath, travel, entertainment, waste disposal, automobile service, machine repair, goods rental and leasing and other service businesses out of service industries (that cannot be classified otherwise) (Survey on employees) Workers employed at the above establishments</p>	<p>Every five years</p> <p>(The most recent survey was conducted in 2005.)</p>	<p>September</p>
<p>General Survey on the Prevention of Industrial Accidents in the Construction Industry (General statistical Survey)</p> <p>Wages and Labour Welfare Statistics Division, Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat</p>	<p>Investigate safety and health management efforts by general construction companies and specified construction companies in the context of original contractor-subcontractor relationship, and occurrence of industrial injuries, to improve industrial injury prevention measures</p>	<p>(Survey on establishments) Items regarding establishments attributes, items regarding safety and health management system, items regarding safety and health activities, etc. (Survey on construction sites) Items regarding construction sites, items regarding safety and health management system, items regarding safety and health measures, etc. (Survey on employees) Items regarding worker's attributes, items regarding experience close to accidents, preventive measures which workers want their employers or original contractors carry out</p>	<p>(Survey on establishments) Private establishments of construction business with 5-99 regular employees (Survey on construction sites) Construction sites whose premium of workmen's accident compensation insurance is over ¥ 1.6 million, or whose contract price is over ¥ 190 million (Survey on employees) Workers engaged in construction work at the above sites</p>	<p>Every five years</p> <p>(The most recent survey was conducted in 2004.)</p>	<p>August</p>

Name of Survey	Objectives	Contents	Target	Frequency	Time of Release
Comprehensive Survey on Wages Central Labour Relations Commission	Reference data used to settle labour disputes	① Survey on wages (wage Structure, contents of allowances, wage increase and distribution, wage level by age group, etc.) ② Survey on retirement allowance, pension, and retirement system (contents of retirement allowance and pension system, actual provision, and retirement allowance level by age group) ③ Survey on working hours, holiday, and vacation (annual scheduled working Hours, annual working days, annual holidays, reduction of annual scheduled working hours, paid annual leave, special holiday, flextime system, etc.)	Enterprises selected by the secretariat of the Central Labour Relations Commission for the settlement of labour disputes from among those which have capital exceeding ¥ 500 million and 1,000 or more employees	Annual for ① Every two years for ② and ③	Immediately after compilation (December for prompt survey report, next March for survey results)
Fact-finding Survey on Minimum Wages (General statistical Survey) Labour Standards Bureau, Worker's Life Department Workers' Life Division	Investigate wages and wage revision of workers at small-and medium-sized enterprises or establishments to obtain basic information for deliberations to fix or revise minimum wages at both Central and Local Minimum Wages Councils	Percentage of establishments which revised wages by the extent of wage increase, average wage revision rate, wage increase rate of ordinary workers and part-timers	For survey on wage revision, targets are establishments with less than 30 workers in manufacturing, wholesale, retail, lodging, restaurant services, medical care and welfare, academic research, professional or technical services, services related to daily life, entertainment, and other services (that cannot be classified otherwise) (For basic survey on minimum wages, establishment size in manufacturing was changed to less than 100 workers, and in information-communication industry, establishments engaged in newspaper and publishing with less than 100 workers were added)	Annual	In and after July Published as reference materials for Minimum Wage Councils
Survey on Potential Recruits Among Graduating Students at Universities, Junior Colleges, Technical Colleges, and Vocational Schools Office of Employment Measures for Youth, Employment Security Bureau	Investigate every March how many students receive informal job offers among graduating students at universities, junior colleges, technical colleges, and vocational schools to gather information useful to appropriately respond employment issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population of students subject to the survey at surveyed school No. of surveyed students at surveyed school (no. of samples) What courses the surveyed students want Majors of job seeking students When the students received informal job offers 	6,250 students selected by a fixed method from among graduating students at universities (62 universities, among which 21 national universities, 3 public universities, 38 private universities), junior colleges (20), technical colleges (10), and vocational schools (20), selected from among all universities, colleges, and schools nationwide by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. For the selection of schools, school's administrative body and location are taken into consideration.	Quarterly (October, December, February, April)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early November For October Survey Early January for December Survey Early March for February Survey Early May for April Survey
Survey on Labour Cost Rate (General statistical Survey) Workers' Compensation Administration Division, Worker's Compensation Department, Labour Standards Bureau	Collect data on the actual situations of wages in contracted construction businesses, in order to obtain basic information for revision of the existing labour cost rate which are used to calculate workers' compensation insurance	Contract amount, insurance cost, amount of wages paid, etc	Construction businesses	Every three years in principle	Published as reference materials for Division of Workers' Compensation Insurance, Committee of Labour Conditions, Labour Policy Council
Survey on the Employment Situation of Persons with Disabilities Employment Measures for Persons with Disabilities Division, Employment Measures for the Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Department, Employment Security Bureau	Study the number of employees who are physically disabled, mentally ill, or mentally disabled, and measures for their employment management at private establishments in the major industries, as well as conducting a survey on disabled employees to clarify actual situations of environment and conditions at work in order to contribute to planning and consideration of future employment measures for disabled people	(Survey on establishments) type and degree of disability of employed workers with disability, salary, work hours, number of years of employment in the company, employment conditions (Survey on individuals) housing and living conditions of disabled people employed at above establishments, reason for resignation, special considerations provided	(Survey on establishments) Private establishments with 5 or more regular workers, engaged in the 16 major industries (Survey on individuals) physically disabled, mentally ill, or mentally disabled people who are employed at the establishments which are targets of above survey on establishments	Every five years (The most recent survey was conducted in 2008.)	Scheduled to be released within one year after the survey